

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ANKARA 02615 061140Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----015288 061141Z /17
O 061115Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1393

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 2615

EXDIS

FOR VEST AND NIMETZ FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, MARR, PFOR, TU
SUBJ: TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT

1. DURING DISCUSSIONS OF Q'S AND A'S FOR SECRETARY (SEPTTEL) ELEKDAG TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT HE HAD RAISED WITH PRIME MINISTER CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY AMBASSADOR YESTERDAY IN CONVERSATION REGARDING FUTURE OF US INSTALLATIONS IN TURKEY ONCE THE EMBARGO WAS LIFTED (ANKARA 2581). HE SAID ECEVIT WAS SURE ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE WORKED OUT TO PUT THE BASES IN OPERATION AS SOON AS AN AGREEMENT WAS REACHED WITHOUT HOLDING THINGS UP FOR CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON AID APPROPRIATIONS. THE PRIME MINISTER HAD EMPHASIZED THAT HE SAW THE PROBLEMS AS LEGAL NOT POLITICLA. THERE SIMPLY HAD TO BE AN AGREED BASIS FOR THEIR OPERATION WHICH WOULD HANDLE THE LEGAL PROBLEM.

2. ELEKDAG YESTERDAY REFERRED TO ECEVIT'S "PLITICAL" PROBLEMS IN REOPENING THE BASES. THEREFORE, STATEMENT THAT ECEVIT SEES THE PROBLEMS AS PRIMARILY LEGAL SEEMS TO BE A HOPEFUL SIGN THAT WE WILL BE ABLE QUICKLY TO RESOLVE THE STATUS OF THE BASES. ELEKDAG ALSO TALKED ABOUT HAVING OUR RESPECTIVE MILITARY
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AUTHORITIES BEGIN IMMEDIATELY TALKING ABOUT DETAILS AND HE COMMENTED THAT THE REMOVAL OF THE EMBARGO WOULD CREATE "A MUCH SMOOTHER" ATMOSPHERE BETWEEN BOTH SIDES. HE RESPONDED WARMELY TO THE AMBASSADOR'S REMARK THAT HE HAD EXPLAINED TO HIS OFFICIALS AND OFFICERS THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR BOTH SIDES THAT A NEW AND DIFFERENT SPIRIT BE RECIPROCATED.

AMBASSADOR CALLED SPECIFIC ATTENTION TO PROBLEM OF
APO, WHICH WAS EXAMPLE OF KIND OF "PUNITIVE"
ACTION TAKEN UPON IMPOSITION OF EMBARGO THAT TURKEY
SHOULD BE PREPARED TO HAVE LIFTED IMMEDIATELY ON
EMBARGO'S REPEAL. HE NOTED PRACTICAL POINT THAT
SOME OF PIPELINE MATERIAL WOULD BE COMING THROUGH
THIS CHANNEL.
SPIERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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